

June 25, 2017

Ald. Milele A. Coggs (414) 286-2994

Community enhancement one block, one area at a time

Event on Monday to announce blight removal effort at 9th and Ring

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs will be joined by the founder of the "**We Got This**" work and mentoring initiative **TOMORROW Monday** (**June 26**) to announce a key move to enhance the block where the initiative works with area boys on a weekly basis.

At **8 a.m. on Monday** Alderwoman Coggs will be joined at N. 9th and W. Ring by representatives from the **Department of City Development** and community mentor and leader **Andre Lee Ellis** (founder of We Got This) to announce the removal of a dilapidated home that is near the community garden where boys are mentored and trained in gardening.

Alderwoman Coggs said the property to be removed is a City of Milwaukee owned taxforeclosed home (3257 N. 9th St.) that is an eyesore in the neighborhood. "We seek an enhancement in the neighborhood and we are also looking to remove this blighted property from the sightlines where the We Got This participants are doing positive work," she said.

"And the bonus for the neighborhood and for We Got This is that when the home is removed it will make way for an expansion of the We Got This community garden," Alderwoman Coggs said. "This enhancement will bring a new community resource, and an orchard, and we are proud to celebrate this victory for the neighborhood with the community."

The highly successful We Got This initiative was started in the summer of 2014 by Mr. Ellis out of concern for Borchert Field neighborhood boys surrounded by drugs, violence and a degree of hopelessness (please visit the website https://wegotthismke.com for more information).

This will be the fourth year of the work initiative, which has given many youths the opportunity to build a good work ethic and has kept many on a positive path.